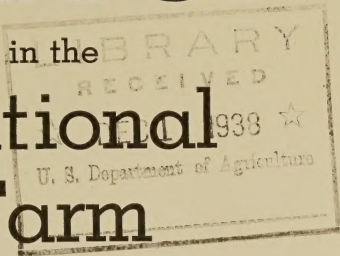


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# COTTON

in the

## National Farm Program



### *Purposes of the Cotton Plan*

1. To help cotton farmers get a fair share of the national income.
2. To conserve and rebuild the soil.
3. To protect consumers by maintaining a stable and adequate flow of cotton to market.
4. To improve living standards through the production of more food and feed where needed for home use.

Commodity Information Series  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Agricultural Adjustment Administration

# Why a Cotton Program?

## *These Are Cotton-Farm Problems—*

**Income**—The average cotton-farm income is not enough for satisfactory living standards.

**Erosion**—Climate, types of soil, and need for clean-cultivated cash crops result in heavy soil losses.

**Cotton surplus**—Excessive cotton acreage means more erosion, less food and feed for home use, and lower income.

**Dense farm population**—Because of small acreage of cropland per capita, cotton farmers have been forced to plant many acres to cash crops. Some of these acres are urgently needed for soil building and for the production of food and feed crops for home use on farms where not enough food has been produced in the past.

**Tariff**—The tariff wall tends to keep out foreign goods. Other nations have to sell goods to this country to get American dollars to buy American cotton.

CAN YOU DEAL WITH THESE  
PROBLEMS ALONE?

# The Present Cotton Situation

When farmers started to market their 1938 crop they found that—

1. Carry-over equaled a whole year's need.
2. Last year's record crop had doubled the carry-over.
3. Consumption had decreased.
4. Price had gone down 30 percent; carry-over up 100 percent.

	1938-39*	1937-38	10-year average 1928-37
	<i>Million bales</i>	<i>Million bales</i>	<i>Million bales</i>
Supply:			
American.....	25. 8	24. 6	21. 9
Foreign.....	26. 2	25. 6	19. 4
World.....	51. 9	50. 2	41. 3
Carry-over:			
American.....	13. 7	6. 2	8. 3
Foreign.....	9. 8	7. 1	6. 0
World.....	23. 4	13. 3	14. 3
Production:			
American.....	12. 1	18. 4	13. 7
Foreign.....	16. 4	18. 5	13. 4
World.....	28. 5	36. 9	27. 0
Consumption:			
American cotton:			
In United States.....		5. 6	5. 9
Exports.....		5. 6	6. 8
Total.....		11. 2	12. 7
Foreign cotton.....		15. 5	12. 9
All cotton.....		26. 4	25. 7
Acreage:	<i>Million acres</i>	<i>Million acres</i>	<i>Million acres</i>
American.....	26. 4	34. 0	35. 1
Foreign.....		58. 2	47. 7
World.....		92. 2	82. 8

\* Preliminary.

CAN CONSUMPTION BE INCREASED?

# Program Provisions

## *These Are the Main Points—*

**Acreage adjustment**—Each farmer's acreage allotment represents his share of a desirable national acreage and leaves more land available for soil building and for home food and feed crops where needed.

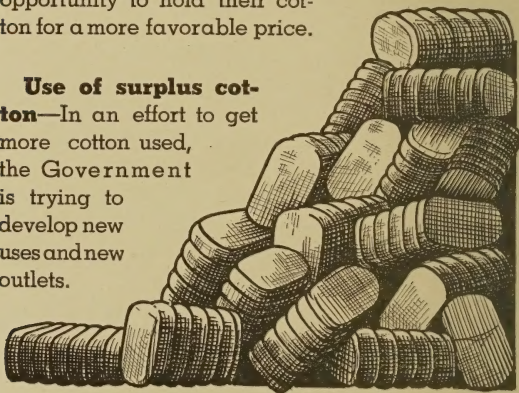
**Conservation payment**—A portion of the payment is designed to assist farmers in adjusting soil-depleting cash-crop acreages, while the remainder is to assist in carrying out soil-building practices.

**Parity payment**—The purpose of the price-adjustment payment is to bring cotton income closer to parity.

**Marketing quotas**—When the market supply becomes excessive, quotas may be used to help regulate the amount of cotton marketed.

**Loans**—Cotton loans (not available when quotas are rejected) provide farmers with insurance against complete price collapse and an opportunity to hold their cotton for a more favorable price.

**Use of surplus cotton**—In an effort to get more cotton used, the Government is trying to develop new uses and new outlets.







# What the Program Has Helped to Do

*Cotton Farmers Have Gained in—*

## **1. Increased income—**

1930	\$751, 000, 000
1931	528, 000, 000
1932	464, 000, 000
1933	896, 000, 000
1934	822, 000, 000
1935	858, 000, 000
1936	988, 000, 000
1937	982, 000, 000
1938 (estimated)	853, 000, 000

(Includes income from lint, seed, and after 1932, A. A. A. payments.)

**2. Improved soil—**In nine States of the Cotton Belt, in 1937, about 20 million acres of soil-conserving crops were grown on cooperating farms. These farms had a total of about 67 million acres of cropland. About 600,000 acres of land were terraced; about 500,000 acres of permanent pasture established; and, in addition, smaller acreages of miscellaneous practices were put into effect.

**3. Increased home food and feed—**In nine States of the Cotton Belt, in 1936, about 11,000,000 acres and, in 1937, about 9,600,000 acres were diverted from soil-depleting cash crops. In addition to the land farmers formerly used for food- and feed-crop production, a large percentage of these diverted acres were used for soil-conserving crops. On farms with an inadequate supply of food and feed crops for home use, part of the diverted acreage was devoted to these crops.

BETTER INCOME, BETTER SOIL, MORE  
FOOD AND FEED MEANS  
BETTER LIVING!

## TO COTTON PRODUCERS:

"There is a greater need today than ever for the vital spark that has carried American agriculture through the past 4 years. As we look upon the troubled world of which we all are a part, we realize that the future will bring serious problems.

"In a very real sense, the cotton farmers, the wheat farmers, and the other farmers are still paying for the last war—paying for lost foreign markets and for dislocations which after 2 decades still remain unadjusted.

"The farm program of 1938 was made necessary by war and the aftermath of war. And now today with conditions as they are in the world, this farm program has become more vital to you and to the wheat and corn farmers than it has ever been before. Now, more than before, it is needed to assure farmers the fair share of the national income which they must have for better living standards among farm families.

"You have a farm program based on farm equality now. But can you keep it unless you are willing to fight for it?

"The time has come for farmers the country over to make up their minds where they stand."

Henry A. Wallace,  
*Secretary of Agriculture.*

